

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 16, as follows:

-- For the embodiment illustrated in Figure 2B [[5]], the software title is encrypted with the title public key (Title A). To start the process, the user 220 provides user information to the server 222. The server 222 uses the user information to create a user public key (User A) and user private key (User B) pair 226. The server 222 then transmits the User A key back to the user 220. A console public key/private key pair comprising a Console A key 228 and a Console B key 229 is then created for the user 220. The user encrypts and transmits the console public key (Console A) 228 to the server 222 using the user public key (User A). The user 220 next transmits the title ID to the server 222 for the software product to be purchased. The server 222 retrieves title private key (Title B) 232 for the specified software product. The Title B key is the private key corresponding to the title public key (Title A) used to encrypt the specified software product. The server 222 then ~~re-encrypts and~~ transmits the Title B key to the user 220 using encryption provided by the user private key (User B) and the console public key (Console A). At the user side, the user will use the user public key (User A) to decrypt the user private key (User B), and the console private key (Console B) to decrypt the console public key (Console A). The user can then freely access the ~~decrypts the encrypted~~ software title after finally decrypting it using the title ~~public~~ private key (Title B) ~~(Title A)~~ obtained from the server 222.

After the decryption of the software title that ~~has been~~ was encrypted with the title public key (Title A) by the ~~server 222~~ user 220, the user transmits purchase information 240 to the server 222. Using the purchase information, the server 222 creates a usage counter 242.

The usage counter can be embodied in an electronic token that is debited with each use, time

period, or some other unit of measure. The counter is encrypted and transmitted to the user
220 using the Console A and User B keys. --